(b) if not, the funds allotted for the growth of the two industries during the last three years;

(c) the share of R&D support for both the industries;

(d) the details of increase in excise duty on various Asava, Arishta produced by the Ayurvedic industry during last five years; and

(e) the steps taken to make Ayurvedic industry more competitive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

**Study on replacement blood donors**

1851. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study conducted by Nagpur-based Government Medical College during the last three years has revealed that 74.94 per cent blood made available by replacement donors is predominantly HIV sero-positive;

(b) if so, whether this dangerous phenomenon is restricted only to that area; and

(c) whether Government are proposing ramdon sampling all over the country so that spread of HIV could be controlled and optimal safety and efficacy measures are adopted by Blood Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir. A study carried out by a post-graduate student in the Blood Bank of Government Medical College, Nagpur during 1998—2000 has found the sero-positivity rate in replacement donors at 1.53 per cent and in voluntary donors it was 1.31 per cent: The study involved a total of 24,296 donors and of the total 391 of sero-positive cases, 293 cases (74.94%) pertained to replacement donors and the remaining to voluntary donors.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. The Government is not proposing any random sampling.